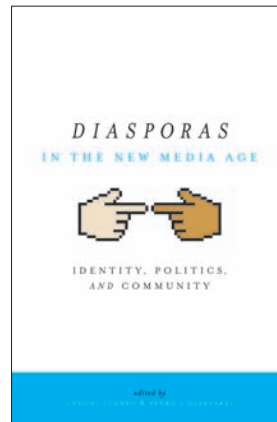
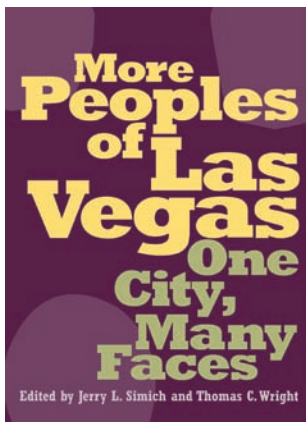
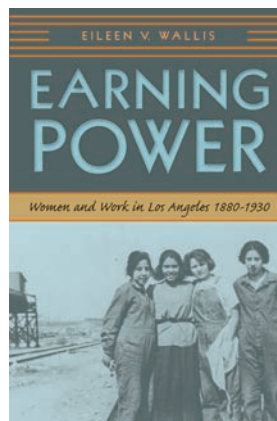
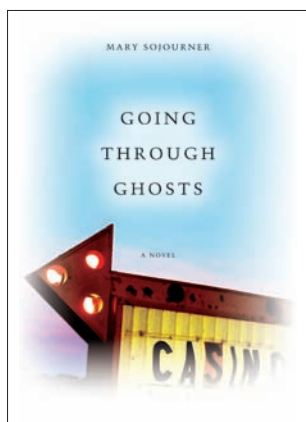
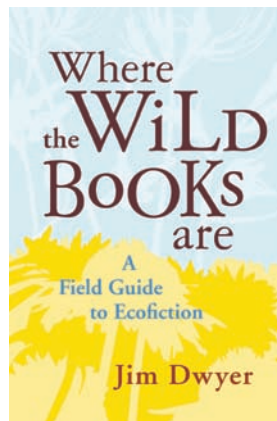


The background of the page is an abstract composition. On the far left, there is a solid vertical bar of bright orange color. The rest of the page is filled with a dense pattern of vertical, slightly wavy streaks in various colors including shades of orange, red, purple, blue, and green, creating a textured, painterly effect.

**university of nevada press | spring 2010**



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## **Praise for *Raw Edges***

“Few writers are willing to go marrow-deep in search of truth. Barber’s remarkable memoir about her lifelong search for the meaning of love and spirituality is the story of every woman on this planet who ever uttered the words ‘I love you’ to a man and then was stunned at the aftermath. Her style is spare and elegiac, her story is honest, heartfelt, and unforgettable. I highly recommend *Raw Edges*—a beautifully written story of what it means to be a wife, mother, lover, and independent woman.”

**Jo-Ann Mapson**, author of *The Owl & Moon Café: A Novel* and others

“Whether you want a model of tenacity in confronting the rigors of modern life or an example of a deft handling of metaphor in prose, you’ll find that this is a gripping, page-turning saga.”

**Levi S. Peterson**, author of *A Rascal by Nature, A Christian by Yearning: A Mormon Autobiography*

“In this remarkably honest memoir, Phyllis Barber takes readers on a harrowing journey from Mormon girlhood through marriage, motherhood, codependency, and a thousand-mile bicycle trip to an epiphany in a Denver attic. Although the details belong to her, the issues she explores will be familiar to anyone who has navigated the boundary between compassion and obsession.”

**Laurel Thatcher Ulrich**, author of *Well-Behaved Women Seldom Make History*

“Drawing from the raw edges of experience, Barber delineates the thin lines between faith and faithlessness, between terrible loss and wondrous abundance, and between the past and the present, braiding them beautifully in this remarkable memoir. Her achievement in this brave book is an act of fidelity—to life itself.”

**William R. Handley**, coeditor of *True West: Authenticity and the American West*

# Raw Edges

## A Memoir

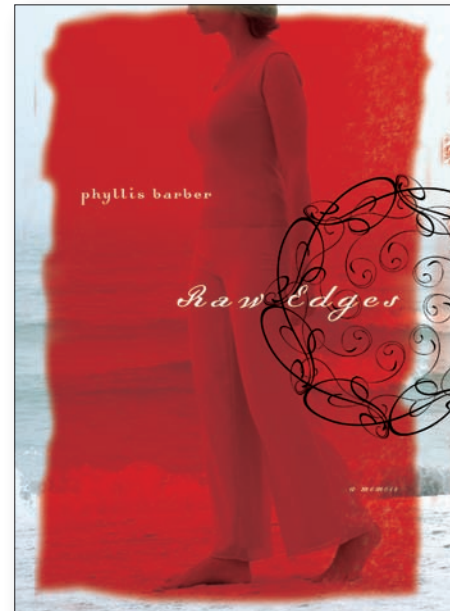
Phyllis Barber

*An honest, wise exploration of the dissolution of a thirty-three-year marriage and a woman's search for a way to move forward*

When Phyllis Barber's thirty-three-year marriage disintegrated, she had to redefine herself as a woman, mother, and artist. She also had to reconcile the jarring dissonance between her idealistic Mormon vision of marriage as a relationship that would endure through all eternity, and the painful reality of mutual infidelities and disparate needs. *Raw Edges* is Barber's moving account of her journey through the "lean years" that followed her divorce and her memories of a long, eventful marriage between two gifted and loving people.

Barber's path to a new identity was rocky and often deeply troubled. There was a blighted cross-country bicycle trip; a tortured relationship with a drug addict; a second failed marriage; and periods of recurring depression. This story is interwoven with a narrative of the marriage itself, a marriage that began with "sealing" in a Mormon temple, endured through the birth of four sons and the development of two careers, but foundered when the couple's hopes and personal needs failed to match their optimistic expectations and the rigid strictures of Mormon life.

*Raw Edges* reflects the predicament that many women experience as marriages disintegrate, families fall apart, and people fail to achieve the expectations that their society or faith sets for them. It is also a story of hope, of how a woman overcome by grief and confusion eventually reinvents herself and finds a new approach to life. Ultimately, *Raw Edges* is a love story, about what we find in life to love, and about how love and the ability to love survive pain and betrayal.



**Phyllis Barber** is the award-winning author of seven books, including an earlier memoir, *How I Got Cultured: A Nevada Memoir*. She teaches in the Vermont College of Fine Arts MFA Writing Program and lives in Denver. She was inducted into the Nevada Writers Hall of Fame in 2005.

### by the same author

*How I Got Cultured: A Nevada Memoir*

paper, 978-0-87417-233-1, \$14.95

### March

280 pages, 6 x 8.25

cloth, 978-0-87417-807-4, **\$26.95**

## Where the Wild Books Are

### A Field Guide to Ecofiction

Jim Dwyer

*The definitive guide to works of eco-literature*

#### Praise for *Where the Wild Books Are*

"There is not and will not be anything else like this book on the market, and no one will attempt to imitate it, given its range and scope. It will prove an invaluable reference book, not only for libraries to own but also for serious ecocritics working with English-language texts around the world."

**Patrick D. Murphy**, author of *Farther Afield in the Study of Nature-Oriented Literature*

"Dwyer's suggestive, provocative 'field guide' does exactly what one would expect from such a work—it makes us want to read more, to read the actual literary texts. With prompts and prods—rather than traditional analysis and arguments—*Where the Wild Books Are* inspires readers to explore the work of authors they may never have encountered before and to consider new dimensions of environmental literature. The book is rich with advice."

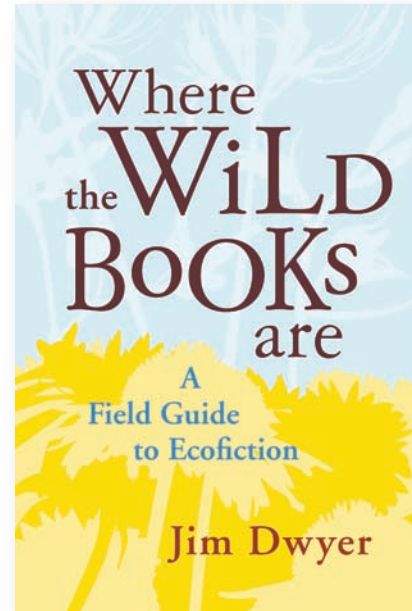
**Scott Slovic**, author of *Going Away to Think: Engagement, Retreat, and Ecocritical Responsibility*

"Jim Dwyer's book is proof positive that fiction is stranger and often more interesting than facts. This is a must-have item for any eco-reference collection."

**Fred Stoss**, chair of the Task Force on the Environment, American Library Association

As interest in environmental issues grows, many writers of fiction have embraced themes that explore the connections between humans and the natural world. Ecologically themed fiction ranges from profound philosophical meditations to action-packed entertainments. *Where the Wild Books Are* offers an overview of nearly 2,000 works of nature-oriented fiction. The author includes a discussion of the precursors and history of the genre, and of its expansion since the 1970s. He also considers its forms and themes, as well as the subgenres into which it has evolved, such as speculative fiction, ecodefense, animal stories, mysteries, ecofeminist novels, cautionary tales, and others. A brief summary and critical commentary of each title is included. Dwyer's scope is broad and covers fiction by Native American writers as well as ecofiction from writers around the world.

Far more than a mere listing of books, *Where the Wild Books Are* is a lively introduction to a vast universe of engaging, provocative writing. It can be used to develop book collections or curricula. It also serves as an introduction to one of the most fertile areas of contemporary fiction, presenting books that will offer enjoyable reading and new insights into the vexing environmental questions of our time.



**Jim Dwyer** is bibliographic services librarian at California State University, Chico. He is also the author of *Earth Works: Recommended Fiction and Nonfiction About Nature and the Environment for Adults and Young Adults*.

#### of related interest

*Going Away to Think: Engagement, Retreat, and Ecocritical Responsibility*

Scott Slovic

paper, 978-0-87417-756-5, \$24.95

#### March

248 pages, 6 x 8.5

paper, 978-0-87417-811-1, **\$29.95**



# Going Through Ghosts

Mary Sojourner

*A powerful novel about the women and men who work and play in Nevada's small-town casinos*

### Praise for *Going Through Ghosts*

"I have a soft spot for this book, and I like these characters. I think this is a book that serves Nevada really well, both in terms of landscape and in terms of the loving but unsanitized description of those who tend to wind up in a place like Creosote."

**Pam Houston**, author of *Sight Hound*

"Searing and redemptive, Mary Sojourner's prose creates rituals for living, for dying, and for learning patience while we endure what's intolerable."

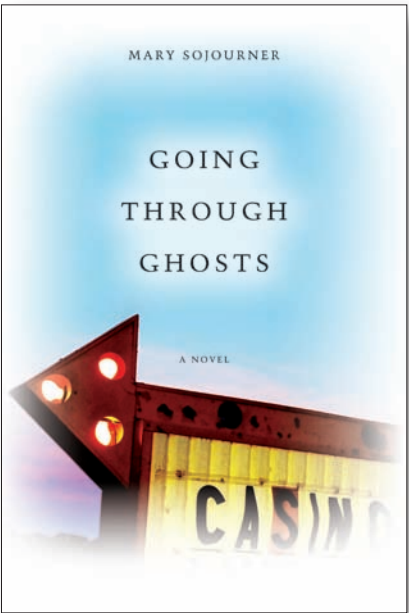
**Peggy Shumaker**, author of *Just Breathe Normally* and *Gnawed Bones*

"You will not want to put this novel down until you've read the very last word. . . . Sojourner's characters will not ever leave your mind and heart—even if you wanted them to."

**Susan Lang**, author of *Small Rocks Rising* and *Moon Lily*

Maggie Foltz is a fifty-five-year-old cocktail waitress in a rundown casino in the southern Nevada Mojave Desert. She spends her days serving drinks to lonely old folks playing the slot machines and her nights trying to escape her bitter past. When she befriends Sarah, a young Native American woman who is hired to cook in the casino coffee shop, her life begins to change. Maggie finds herself falling in love with a memory-haunted Vietnam veteran and warily begins to hope that together they can find peace. Then Sarah is mysteriously murdered, and Sarah's ghost enlists Maggie to accompany her on a quest for the wisdom that she needs in order to move into the next world. The story ranges from smoky casinos into the harsh magnificence of the desert and the reservation where Sarah's people are trying to preserve their culture and find their own place in a modern world that seems to want them to be either shamans or losers.

Sojourner's characters are compellingly real, and the Mojave setting has rarely been depicted as sensitively or truthfully. This is a memorable story of love, redemption, and solace, told by one of the West's finest writers.



**Mary Sojourner** writes and lives in Bend, Oregon. She is also the author of *Bonelight: Ruin and Grace in the New Southwest*, another novel, short stories, and many essays. She has taught writing workshops and been a commentator for National Public Radio.

### by the same author

*Bonelight: Ruin and Grace in the New Southwest*

cloth, 978-0-87417-510-3, \$21.95

paper, 978-0-87417-584-4, \$12.95

### March

296 pages, 6 x 9

paper, 978-0-87417-809-8, **\$25.00**

West Word Fiction

## Earning Power

### Women and Work in Los Angeles, 1880–1930

Eileen V. Wallis

*The role of working women in the development of a major American city*

#### Praise for *Earning Power*

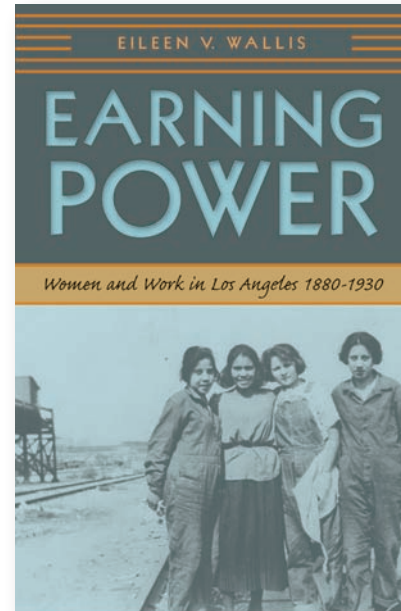
"The intersections of race, ethnicity, gender, and class are front and center in Eileen Wallis's important new book on women in Los Angeles workplaces. Not only does her study capture the multicultural West, but also the different development of LA's economy within the context of Progressive Era reform."

**Joanne Goodwin**, associate professor of history and director of the Women's Research Institute of Nevada

The half-century between 1880 and 1930 saw rampant growth in many American cities and an equally rapid movement of women into the work force. In Los Angeles, the city not only grew from a dusty cow town to a major American metropolis but also offered its residents myriad new opportunities and challenges. *Earning Power* examines the role that women played in this growth as they attempted to make their financial way in a rapidly changing world.

Los Angeles during these years was one of the most ethnically diverse and gender-balanced American cities. Moreover, its accelerated urban growth generated a great deal of economic, social, and political instability. In *Earning Power*, author Eileen V. Wallis examines how women negotiated issues of gender, race, ethnicity, and class to gain access to professions and skilled work in Los Angeles. She also discusses the contributions they made to the region's history as political and social players, employers and employees, and as members of families.

Wallis reveals how the lives of women in the urban West differed in many ways from those of their sisters in more established eastern cities. She finds that the experiences of women workers force us to reconsider many assumptions about the nature of Los Angeles's economy, as well as about the ways women participated in it. The book also considers how Angelenos responded to the larger national social debate about women's work and the ways that American society would have to change in order to accommodate working women. *Earning Power* is a major contribution to our understanding of labor in the urban West during this transformative period and of the crucial role that women played in shaping western cities, economies, society, and politics.



**Eileen V. Wallis** is assistant professor of history at California State Polytechnic University, Pomona.

#### of related interest

*Class and Gender Politics in Progressive-Era Seattle*

John C. Putman

cloth, 978-0-87417-736-7, \$39.95s

#### March

264 pages, 6 x 9.25, 8 b/w photographs, 1 line art

cloth, 978-0-87417-813-5, **\$39.95s**

Urban West Series



## More Peoples of Las Vegas

### One City, Many Faces

Edited by Jerry L. Simich and Thomas C. Wright

*Portraits from Nevada's Global City*

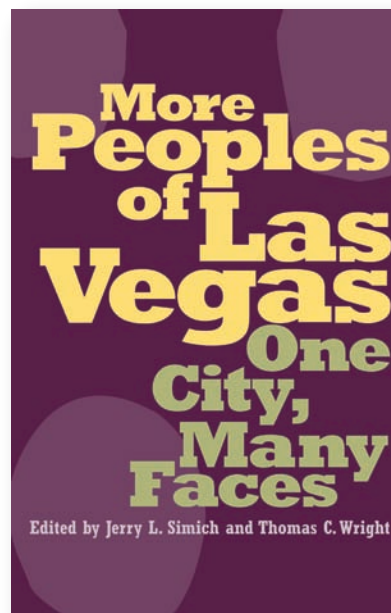
#### CONTENTS

Michael Green, *The Irish* • Carole Cosgrove Terry, *The Germans* • Andrew B. Russell and Fumiko Sasaki, *The Japanese* • William Clayson, *The Cubans* • Jonathan R. Strand and Melanie C. Young, *The Scandinavians* • Aslam Abdullah, *The Muslims* • Michelle Tusan, *The Armenians* • Guillermo Monkman, *The Argentines* • Kathleen Ja Sook Bergquist, *The Koreans* • Jiemin Bao, *The Thais* • Michelle Kuenzi, *The Ethiopians* • John P. Tuman and Dawn Gearhart, *The Guatemalans* • Timothy Pratt, *The Colombians*

The remarkable economic growth of Las Vegas between 1980 and 2007 created a population boom and a major increase in the ethnic and religious diversity of the city. Today, over 21 percent of the city's population is foreign born, and over 30 percent speak a language other than English at home. The local court system offers interpreters in 82 languages, and in 2005/2006, for example, more than 11,000 people, originating from 138 countries, were naturalized there as American citizens.

*More Peoples of Las Vegas* extends the survey of this city's cosmopolitan population begun in *The Peoples of Las Vegas* (University of Nevada Press, 2005). As in the previous book, this volume includes well-established groups like the Irish and Germans, and recently arrived groups like the Ethiopians and Guatemalans. Essays describe the history of each group in Las Vegas and the roles they play in the life and economy of the city. The essays also explore the influence of modern telecommunications and accessible air travel, showing how these factors allow newcomers to create transnational identities and maintain ties with families and culture back home. They also examine the role of local institutions—including clubs, religious organizations, shops, restaurants, and newspapers and other media—in helping immigrants maintain their ethnic and religious identities and in disseminating national and even regional cultures of origin.

*More Peoples of Las Vegas* adds to our awareness of the rich and varied ethnic and religious character of Las Vegas. In a broader context, it offers thoughtful perspectives on the impact of globalization on a major American city and on the realities of immigrant life in the twenty-first century.



**Jerry Simich** is emeritus associate professor of political science at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

**Thomas C. Wright** is a distinguished professor of history at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

#### of related interest



*The Peoples of Las Vegas: One City, Many Faces*

Edited by Jerry L. Simich and Thomas C. Wright

cloth, 978-0-87417-614-8, \$44.95

paper, 978-0-87417-616-2, \$29.95

#### March

288 pages, 6 x 9.25, 23 b/w photographs

paper, 978-0-87417-817-3, **\$29.95**

Wilbur S. Shepperson Series in Nevada History

## Diasporas in the New Media Age

### Identity, Politics, and Community

Edited by Andoni Alonso and Pedro J. Oiarzabal

*Globalization and the impact of digital communications*

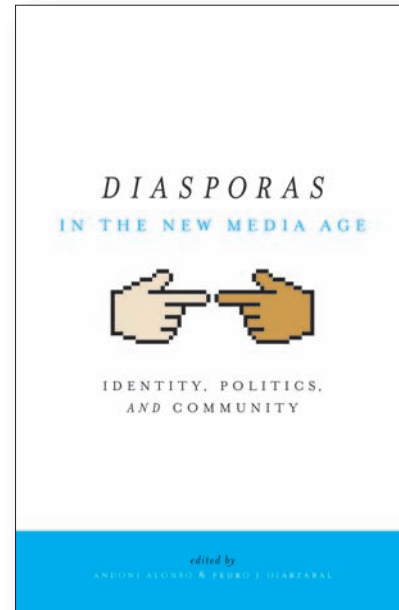
#### Praise for *Diasporas in the New Media Age*

"This is really an exciting book. The more I read it, the more enthusiastic I became. This is a genuinely original and challenging work of interdisciplinary scholarship and constitutes an important contribution to a number of fields."

**Carl Mitcham**, author of *Thinking Through Technology: The Path Between Engineering and Philosophy*

The explosion of digital information and communication technologies has influenced almost every aspect of contemporary life. *Diasporas in the New Media Age* is the first book-length examination of the social use of these technologies by emigrants and diasporas around the world. The eighteen original essays in the book explore the personal, familial, and social impact of modern communication technology on populations of European, Asian, African, Caribbean, Middle Eastern, and Latin American emigrants. It also looks at the role and transformation of such concepts as identity, nation, culture, and community in the era of information technology and economic globalization. The contributors, who represent a number of disciplines and national origins, also take a range of approaches—empirical, theoretical, and rhetorical—and combine case studies with thoughtful analysis.

*Diasporas in the New Media Age* is both a discussion of the use of communication technologies by various emigrant groups and an engaging account of the immigrant experience in the contemporary world. It offers important insights into the ways that dispersed populations are using digital media to maintain ties with their families and homeland, and to create new communities that preserve their culture and reinforce their sense of identity. In addition, the book is a significant contribution to our understanding of the impact of technology on society in general.



**Andoni Alonso** is associate professor of philosophy at the University of Extremadura, Spain. He is the author of many articles and books, including *Basque Cyberculture: From Digital Euskadi to Cyber Euskalherria*.

**Pedro J. Oiarzabal** received his doctorate from the Center for Basque Studies at the University of Nevada, Reno. He is the author of numerous articles as well as books on migration and identity, including *Gardeners of Identity: Basques in the San Francisco Bay Area*.

**April**

384 pages, 6 x 9.25

paper, 978-0-87417-815-9, **\$44.95s**

## The Family Ranch

### Land, Children, and Tradition in the American West

Linda Husa

Photographs by Madeleine Graham Blake

#### Praise for *The Family Ranch*

"Thank you for *The Family Ranch*. Reading, for some magic reason, I could not stop crying, ... [the] stories of persistent devotion so struck my heart. It was as if I had been holding my breath for years waiting for these ordinary stories of extraordinary witness."

**Kim Stafford**, author of *Having Everything Right: Essays of Place*

"The role of nurture in the West may well be its most untold story, and the portraits of the six families painted here are both moving and essential as we try to build a sustainable world."

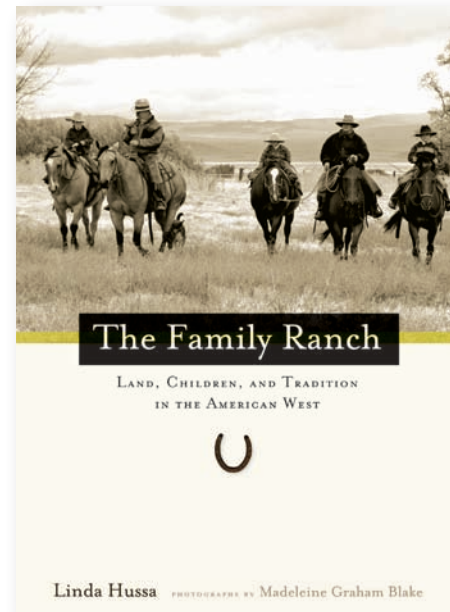
**Teresa Jordan**, author of *Riding the White Horse Home: A Western Family Album*

"*The Family Ranch* offers an unforgettable portrait of enduring family traditions. A treasury of insight into the traditions and legacy of a distinctly American Way of Life."

#### Midwest Book Review

Ranch families in the twenty-first century face many challenges, from competition with agribusiness corporations to tax laws that encourage development over agriculture and prevent the smooth transfer of land from one generation to the next. In *The Family Ranch*, available now for the first time in paperback, award-winning author Linda Husa profiles six diverse ranching families and the land that shapes their lives. Photographer Madeleine Graham Blake's engaging and often moving images portray each family at work and at play. With chapters on critical issues that face each of them—grazing rights, water use, children's education, the emerging rural marketplace—these family stories are set into a larger social and economic context.

This is family ranching as it has always been, but made more complex in modern times. By combining their traditions with the tools of modern technology, these people strengthen the ideal of family and give the business of ranching a vibrant and viable future. Essential reading for people who love the West and care about its future, *The Family Ranch* inspires thoughts about tradition, values, and responsibility that are applicable to all communities.



**Linda Husa** is the author of eight books of prose and poetry, and is a recipient of the Nevada Writers Hall of Fame Silver Pen Award. She and her husband ranch in Surprise Valley, near Cedarville, California.

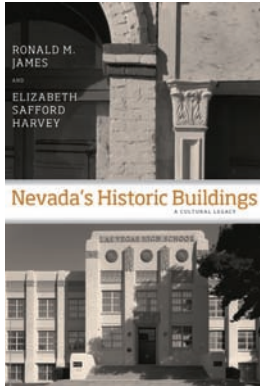
**Madeleine Graham Blake** is a fine-art photographer. She has taught photography at the Dominican University of California, and currently lives on a homestead ranch next to the Lower Klamath Lake National Wildlife Refuge.

#### March

272 pages, 6 x 8.25, 27 b/w photographs

paper, 978-0-87417-819-7, \$18.95

## Recently Published



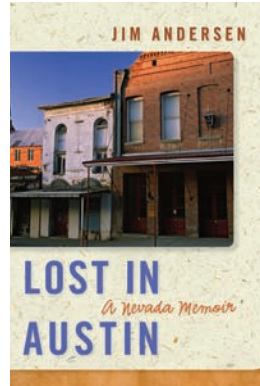
### **Nevada's Historic Buildings: A Cultural Legacy**

Ronald M. James and Elizabeth Safford Harvey

Photographs by Thomas Perkins

cloth 978-0-87417-797-8 | \$39.95

paper 978-0-87417-798-5 | \$24.95



### **Lost in Austin: A Nevada Memoir**

Jim Andersen

paper 978-0-87417-787-9 | \$21.95



### **No Place Like Home: Notes from a Western Life**

Linda M. Hasselstrom

cloth 978-0-87417-796-1 | \$24.95



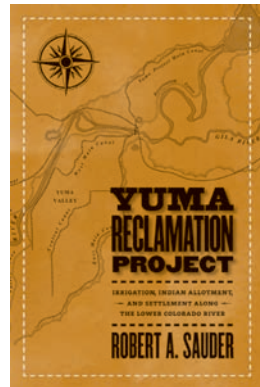
### **The Nature Way**

Corbin Harney

As told to and edited by Alex Purbrick

Foreword by Tom Goldtooth

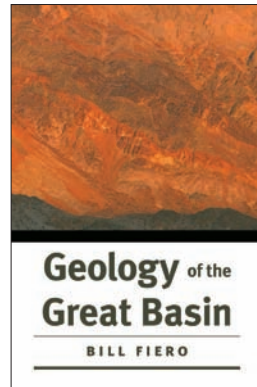
paper 978-0-87417-788-6 | \$18.95



### **The Yuma Reclamation Project: Irrigation, Indian Allotment, and Settlement Along the Lower Colorado River**

Robert A. Sauder

cloth 978-0-87417-783-1 | \$44.95

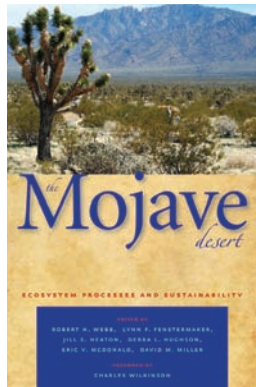
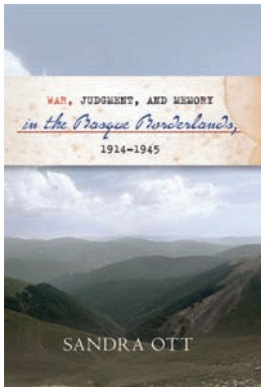
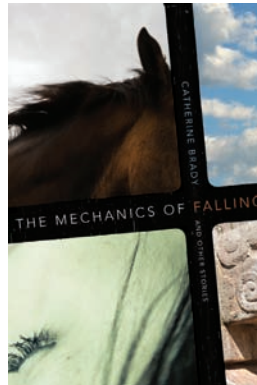
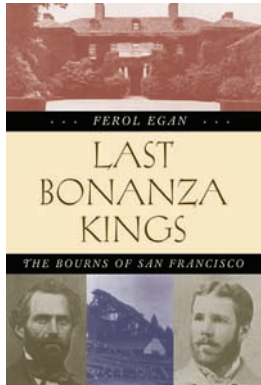


### **Geology of the Great Basin**

Bill Fiero

paper, 978-0-87417-790-9 | \$29.95





## Recently Published

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Ferol Egan

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S. K. Robisch

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paper 978-0-87417-773-2 | \$29.95

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Catherine Brady

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Sandra Ott

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### **The Mojave Desert: Ecosystem Processes and Sustainability**

Edited by R. H. Webb, L. F. Fenstermaker,  
J. S. Heaton, D. L. Hughson, E. V. McDonald, and  
D. M. Miller

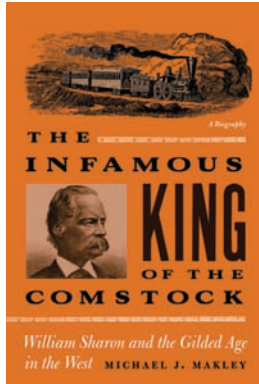
cloth 978-0-87417-776-3 | \$65.00

### **Cheatgrass: Fire and Forage on the Range**

James A. Young and Charlie D. Clements

cloth 978-0-87417-765-7 | \$44.95

## Western History

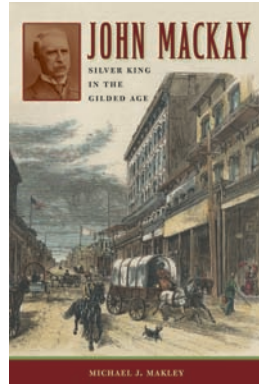


### **The Infamous King of the Comstock:**

#### **William Sharon and the Gilded Age in the West**

Michael J. Makley

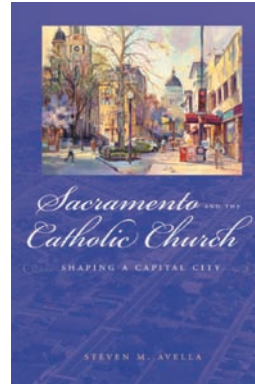
paper 978-0-87417-779-4 | \$24.95



### **John Mackay: Silver King in the Gilded Age**

Michael J. Makley

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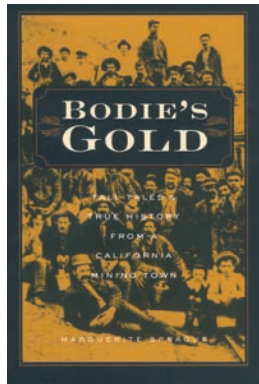


### **Sacramento and the Catholic Church:**

#### **Shaping a Capital City**

Steven M. Avella

cloth 978-0-87417-760-2 | \$39.95



### **Bodie's Gold: Tall Tales and True History**

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Marguerite Sprague

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### **Dolly and Zane Grey: Letters from a Marriage**

Edited and with commentary by Candace C. Kant

cloth 978-0-87417-749-7 | \$34.95

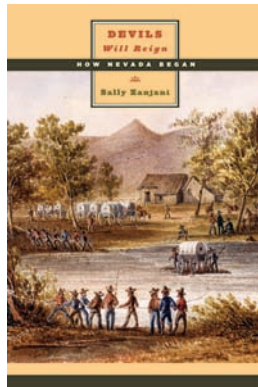
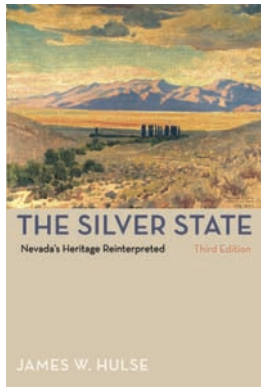
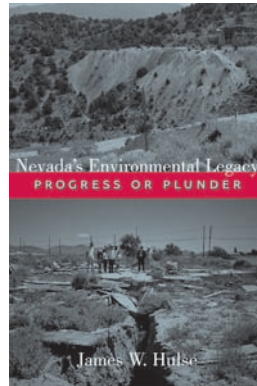
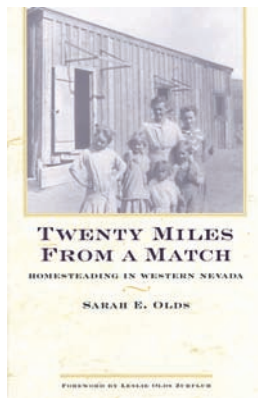
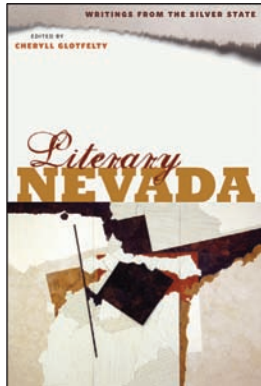


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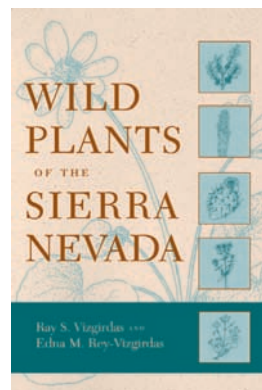
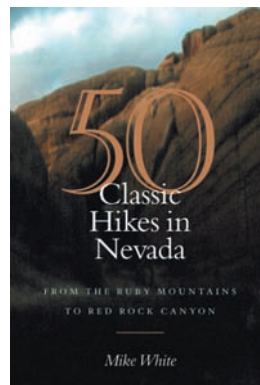
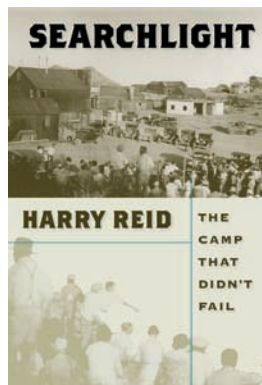
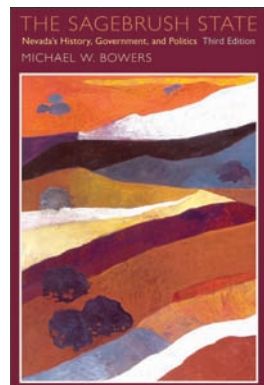
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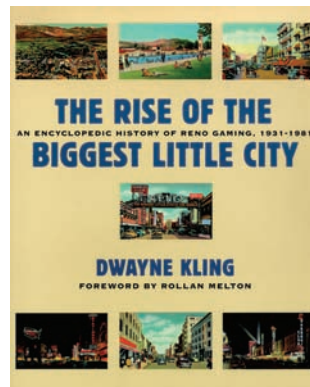
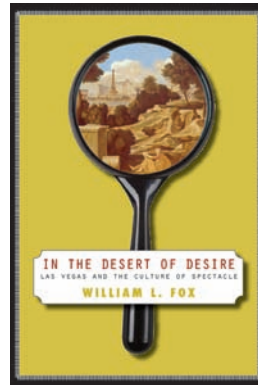
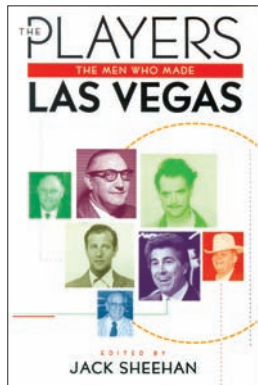
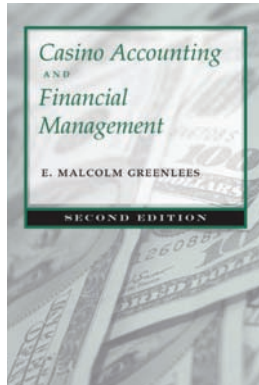
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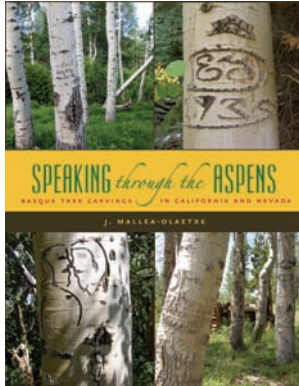
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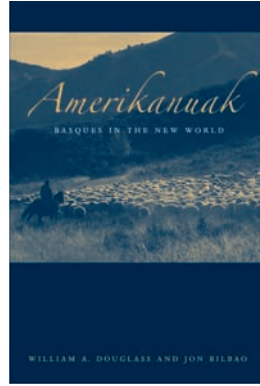
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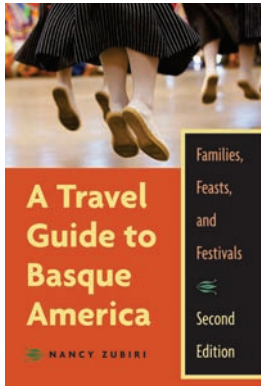
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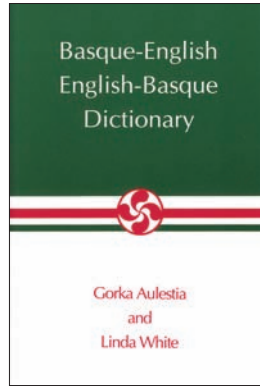
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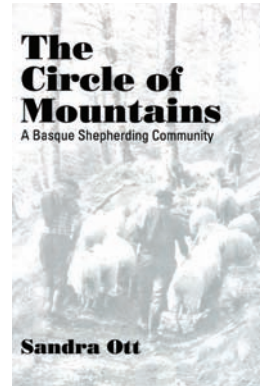
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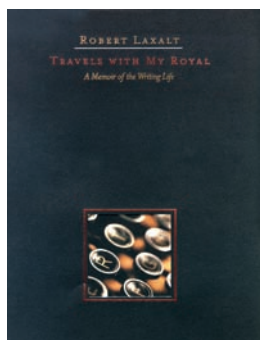
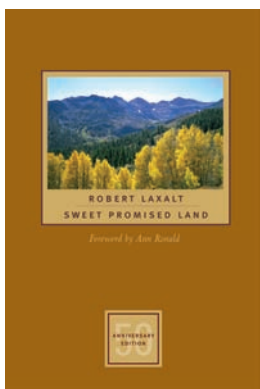
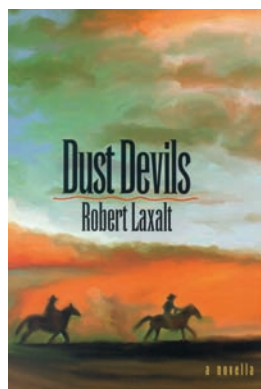
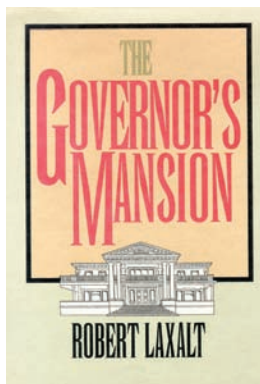
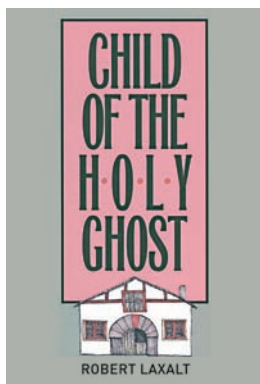
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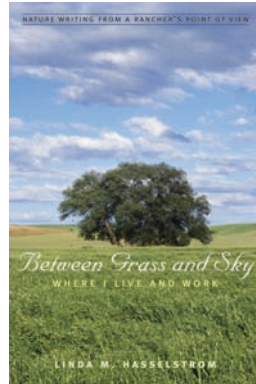
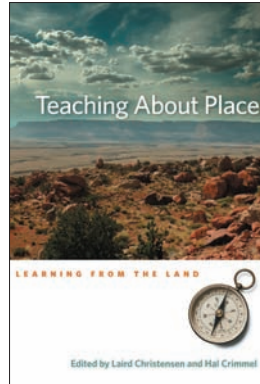
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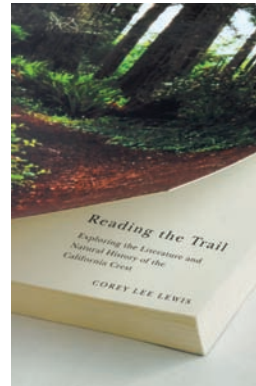
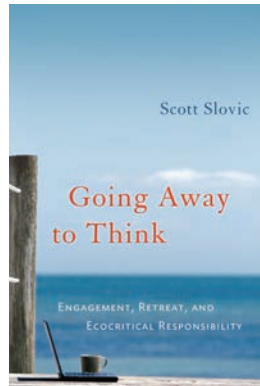
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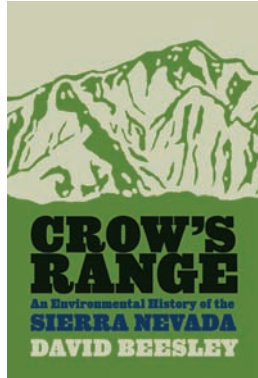


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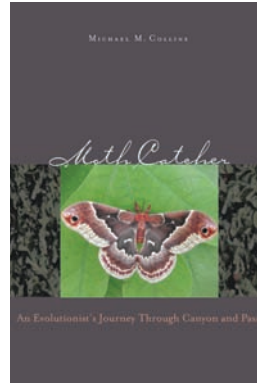


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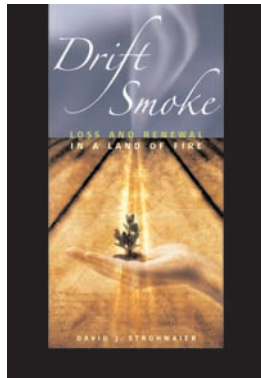


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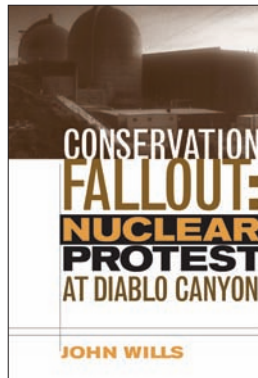


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